

# News Release



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## **New Fire Regulations Now In Effect At Auburn State Recreation Area**

AUBURN: New fire regulations are now in effect within the Auburn State Recreation Area in conjunction with Placer County's countywide open burning regulation and recommendations from the California Department of Forestry (CDF). All aboveground charcoal and propane BBQ's are prohibited in the park's day use areas and River Camping permits will not be issued after July 1. The Auburn State Recreation Area (ASRA) comprises 42,000 acres of canyon lands of the North and Middle Forks of the American River south of the City of Auburn.

"Campfires in designated campgrounds are allowed unless CDF determines that the expected or current fire and weather conditions warrant a campfire prohibition. There are signs at each of our campgrounds that will inform users whether campfires are allowed or not" said Park Superintendent Jill Dampier.

Restrictions on campfires in designated campgrounds are triggered by the "Ignition Component Scale/Factor" and "Critical Resource Draw Down" considerations. The "Ignition Component Scale/Factor" takes into account the weather, vegetation, and location. "Critical Resource Draw Down" takes into account available fire personnel and equipment.

"Unlike other state parks, Auburn State Recreation Area does not have developed picnic sites in our day use areas. Therefore, if a family wants to BBQ, they bring their own free-standing charcoal or propane BBQ. This restriction on use of aboveground charcoal and propane BBQ's is not intended to inconvenience our users, but to improve their safety. Our day use areas are at the river's edge at the bottom of steep canyons. If a fire was started by a BBQ at one of our day use areas, the fire would be difficult to put out and the owner of the BBQ would be held liable for the fire" said Dampier.

"We have had three fires in the canyon in the last month. The fuel level is high, the weather conditions are hot and dry, and we want to protect not only our visitors, but also this dynamic resource" said Dampier.

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